

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NASA-04 NSC-10 SCI-06 ADP-00 RSR-01 MC-02 SS-15 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /166 W

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R 092149Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8704

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, UN

SUBJ: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE CONCLUDES SESSION

REF: USUN 2507 NOTAL

1. OSC ENDED 16TH SESSION JUL 6 WITH PROTRACTED CONSIDERATION AND ULTIMATE ADOPTION OF DRAFT REPORT IN MID-EVENING. WHILE AGREED RESOLUTION OF TOUCHY QUESTION OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE 1974 PRIORITIES (REFTE) HELD UP, CONTENTION OF VARYING INTENSITY AROSE OVER 1974 SCHEDULING OF OSC AND ITS SUBSIDIARY ORGANS, POSSIBLE COMMITTEE ENLARGEMENT, AND, PARTICULARLY, ISSUE OF ANNEXING TEXTS THUS FAR AGREED ON MOON AND REGISTRATION TREATIES IN OSC REPORT TO GA.

2. SCHEDULING POSED SEVERAL PROBLEMS. (A) USSR WANTED OSC TO REVERT TO EARLY SEPTEMBER SESSION, BUT DID NOT PERSIST WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF MEMBERSHIP STRONGLY PREFERRED TIME FARTHER REMOVED FROM UNGA. (B) US INITIATIVE PRODUCED SIGNIFICANT SAVING WITH OSC ADOPTION OF OUR PROPOSAL TO COMBINE

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PROJECTED SEPARATE 2-WEEK SESSIONS OF TASK FORCE AND

WORKING GROUP ON REMOTE SENSING INTO ONE 3-WEEK SESSION. USDEL STATED THAT THIS WAS ONLY WAY WE COULD FIND IN 1974 SCHEDULE TO MEET WIDESPREAD CONCERN, WHICH WE SHARED, OVER PROLIFERATION OF OUTER SPACE MEETINGS WITH ATTENDANT STRAIN ON HUMAN RESOURCES OF OSC MEMBERS. SINCE TF AND WG PARTICIPANTS WOULD IN MANY INSTANCES BE SAME, AND BOTH BODIES WOULD BE WORKING TOWARD REPORT STSC, COMBINING SESSIONS SHOULD BE PRACTICABLE.

3. SOVIETS SUCCEEDED IN SHIFTING VENUE OF WG ON DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITES FROM NEW YORK TO GENEVA. FEELING WAS STRONGLY HELD THROUGHOUT THE OSC THAT FIVE OF SIX OSC AND SUBSIDIARY SESSIONS IN NYC, WITH ONLY ONE IN GENEVA, WAS LOPSIDED. SEVERAL WESTERN DELS INCLUDING US REITERATED THEIR GOVT'S STRONG PREFERENCE TO HOLD OSC AND SUBSIDIARIES MEETINGS IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, SINCE ADDED COST FOR GENEVA SESSION OF DBS WG WOULD BE LIMITED TO \$13,000, AND IN VIEW SAVINGS EFFECTED BY COMBINING REMOTE SENSING TF AND WG SESSIONS, US DEL DID NOT STICK ON DBS WG VENUE ISSUE. NO OTHER DEL WAS INCLINED TO CHALLENGE GENEVA VENUE FOR 1974 SESSION ALREADY APPROVED. RESULT IS THAT THREE OF FIVE OSC AND SUBSIDIARY SESSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE NYC, OTHER TWO IN GENEVA (LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE AND DBS WG).

4. DISPUTE BRIEFLY THREATENED WHEN SOVS STATED THEIR AGREEMENT ON OVERALL 1974 SCHEDULE WAS "COMPROMISE" VALID FOR THAT YEAR ONLY. THEY INDICATED INTENTION EVENTUALLY TO RENEGE ON 1971 AGREEMENT TO ROTATE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA, ALLEGING THAT CONCENTRATION OF MEETINGS IN NEW YORK VIOLATED PREVIOUSLY ACCEPTED "BALANCE" UNDER WHICH ALL LSC SESSIONS WERE IN GENEVA. US REP DISABUSED COMMITTEE OF THIS NOTION, POINTING OUT THAT HE HAD ATTENDED LSC NEW YORK MEETINGS IN 1963 AND 1965.

6. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) OSC APPROVED FOLLOWING 1974 SCHEDULE:

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TASK FORCE AND WORKING GROUP
ON REMOTE SENSING 2/11-31 NEW YORK

WORKING GROUP ON DIRECT
BROADCAST SATELLITES 3/11-3/22 GENEVA

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
SUBCOMMITTEE 4/15-4/26 NEW YORK

LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE 5/6-5/31 GENEVA

OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE 7/1-7/12 NEW YORK

IN ADDITION, OSC ASKED CHAIR TO CALL BRIEF OSC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING SHORTLY AFTER UNGA IF THROUGH CONSULTATIONS HE REGARDED DESIRABLE.

7. CONSIDERABLE OF PARAGRAPHS ON OSC ENLARGEMENT PRODUCED RATHER EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION. ARGENTINA TOOK LEAD IN PUSHING FOR MORE "NON-SPACE POWER" AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEE. USSR TOUCHILY ASKED WHAT MEANT BY "NON-SPACE POWER," POINTING OUT E.G. EXTENSIVE INDIAN AND BRAZILIAN SPACE RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND ASKING WHETHER TERM APPLIED TO THOSE COUNTRIES. EGYPT, WHILE AGREEING IN PRINCIPLE TO NEED FOR MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERSHIP, HELPFULLY STRESSED THAT OSC ENLARGEMENT MUST BE CAREFULLY LIMITED. COMMENTING THAT COMMITTEE ALREADY HAD PROBLEMS OPERATING UNDER CONSENSUS PROCEDURE, EGYPTIAN DELOFF ADDED THAT THOSE PROBLEMS SHOULD NOT BE COMPLICATED BY LARGE NUMERICAL INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP. US SUBSCRIBED TO EGYPT'S CAUTION. ARGENTINA RESPONDED THAT "WE'VE HEARD TALK OF 35-36 MAXIMUM" BRAZIL SUPPORTED ARGENTINA, EMPHASIZING THAT REPORT SHOULD REFLECT NEED FOR MORE EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.

8. CANADA STIRRED UP FLURRY FROM INDIA AND IARAN BY SUGGESTING PRESENT OSC MEMBERS BE CANVASSED AS TO THEIR INTEREST IN REMAINING ON COMMITTEE. ALTHOUGH THIS SUGGESTION SEEMED REASONABLE TO MOST DELS, INDIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REP AGRUED THAT IT WOULD SET BAD PRECEDENT WITH DANGEROUS IMPLICATIONS FOR OTHER UN BODIES. CANADA NEVERTHELESS INSISTED ON INCLUSION OF THIS SUGGESTION IN REPORT, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT CANVASS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY OSC CHAIRMAN INFORMALLY AND IN LOW KEY. CHAIR ALSO WAS ASKED TO CARRY OUT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON POSSIBLE OSC ENLARGEMENT DURING UNGA. BENNETT

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

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9. OSC APPROVED FOL PARAGRAPH ON ENLARGEMENT:

"SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE DURING THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE WITH REGARD TO THE ENLARGEMENT OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. SOME MEMBERS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEED TO EXTEND MORE WIDELY THE BENEFIT OF PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE BROADENED SO AS TO ALLOW MORE EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. OTHER DELEGATIONS DREW ATTENTION TO THE DESIRABILITY OF KEEPING THE ENLARGEMENT TO A SMALL NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS. SOME DELEGATIONS FELT THAT BEFORE ANY ENLARGEMENT TOOK PLACE, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE MIGHT BE ASKED WHETHER THEY WISHED TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE. OTHER DELEGATIONS DISAGREED WITH THIS VIEW. MANY DELEGATIONS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MIGHT WISH TO REQUEST THE COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY AND FORMULATE CONCRETE PROPOSALS CONCERNING THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE AND REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS

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TWENTY-NINTH SESSION. OTHER MEMBERS FELT THAT THE

COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS, AS THIS MATTER FELL WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

10. COMMITTEE WOUND UP DISCUSSION OF REPORT WITH PROTRACTED AND TEDIOUS ARGUMENT OVER QUESTION OF ANNEXING PREVIOUSLY AGREED TEXTS OF MOON AND REGISTRATION TREATIES. BESIDES SOVIET EFFORT TO DE-EMPHASIZE SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF AGREEMENT ON REGISTRATION, MOST DISTURBING MANIFESTATION WAS ARGENTINE REP COCA'S ATTEMPT TO BLOCK INCLUSION OF MOON TREATY TEXT, APPARENTLY ON GROUNDS HE PERSONALLY HAD NOT AGREED TO IT. COMMITTEE ULTIMATELY WEARILY APPROVED ANNEXING TEXT OF EVERYTHING SO FAR AGREED ON BOTH TREATIES. CANADIAN REP MILLER CONCLUDED THIS PHASE OF DISCUSSION WITH PLEA TO MEMBERS TO STIMULATE FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN CAPITALS OF COMPROMISE MARKING PROVISION IN REGISTRATION DRAFT, IN HOPE OF REACHING FINAL AGREEMENT AT 28TH GA.

11. IN FINAL ACT OF SESSION, OSC ELECTED SEIXAS-CORREA OF BRAZIL TO SUCCEED SOUZA E SILVA AS COMMITTEE RAPPOREUR. WE HAD MILD QUALMS ABOUT PERPETUATING A "PROPRIETARY" POSITION IN COMMITTEE HIERARCHY FOR BRAZIL BUT LA'S, CONSCIOUS OF UNDER-REPRESENTATION IN OSC MEMBERSHIP, HAVE NO OTHER SUCH JOB. SEIXAS PERSONALLY IS COMPETENT OFFICIAL WELL-DISPOSED TO US.
BENNETT

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